

CONSUMER PROTECTION



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News

November 2001 Edition

Dear Wisconsin Children's Safety Advocates:

In October, 2001, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issued **eight (8) recalls and three (3) safety advisories relating to products affecting children.** Attached is a summary of the releases identifying the product, problem and what should be done with the recalled product.

We have found that not all of the recalls are picked up by the news media as they occur. This monthly summary will give you the opportunity to review all of the children's product safety recalls for the past month.

If you are interested in a complete text of the recall, double click on the hyperlink at the end of the recall description. This will take you to the CPSC website and the actual recall notice. If you have other product safety questions you may call our toll free number at **(800) 422-7128 and then press "zero" (0) to speak with Product Safety.** You should leave your name, your organization's name and a phone number.

Following is a listing of the 11 "KIDS" recalls and safety advisories by title and identification number:

- ❖ Salsa Cycles is recalling Bicycle Rims. #02-006
- ❖ Dorel Juvenile Group is recalling Cosco Playpens. #02-008
- ❖ Safety 1st is recalling Fold-Up Booster Seats. #02-009
- ❖ Evenflo is recalling Home Décor Swing Wooden Babygates for Repair. #02-010
- ❖ Little Tikes is recalling Swings. #02-011
- ❖ Wyco Inc. is recalling "Runt" Mini-Bicycles. #02-012
- ❖ Palliser Furniture Ltd. is recalling Toy Boxes. #02-014
- ❖ Lawsuit filed against Daisy Manufacturing Co. to Recall Two Models of Powerline Airguns. #02-029
- ❖ CPSC Urges Seasonal Furnace Inspections to Prevent CO Poisoning. #02-004
- ❖ Child-Resistant Packaging Required for Common Household Products Containing Hydrocarbons, Including some Baby Oils. #02-015
- ❖ New Safety Standard for Automatic Security Gates helps Prevent Deaths & Injuries to Children. #02-023

We hope you find this service of value and that it assists you to:

"KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE!"

KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE

Recall Number: 02-006 Salsa Cycles, of Bloomington, Minn., is voluntarily recalling about 500 disc-brake specific bicycle rims. The recalled rims are the Salsa Alto models, which have a black anodized finish and are labeled "Salsa" and "Salsa Alto" in yellow, red and white. The rims, which are used on mountain bikes that have disc brakes, were sold individually or built up into wheels with Shimano Deore or Deore XT hubs. Independent bicycle dealers sold these rims from January 2001 through August 2001 for \$50 (individually) or between \$100 and \$150 (in built up wheels).

Problem: The rims can unexpectedly fail during normal use, posing the risk of falls and serious injury to riders.

What to do: Consumers with the recalled rims should stop using them immediately and return them to the store where purchased, for a full refund or free replacement. Consumer also can call Salsa Cycles toll-free at (877) 887-2572 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. CT Monday through Friday, or log on to the company's website at www.salsacycles.com



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml/02/02006.html>

Release Number: 02-008 Dorel Juvenile Group, of Columbus, Ind., is voluntarily recalling about 102,000 Cosco "Zip n Go," "Okie Dokie," and "Carters" playpens manufactured between May 1995 and December 1997. The recalled playpens were sold under the "Zip n Go," "Okie Dokie," and "Carters" brand names and were manufactured by Cosco. Only model numbers 05-361, 05-362, 05-363, and 05-364 are included in this recall. The model numbers are located on a label on the bottom of the playpen, on the metal tubular frame near one of the corners. The label reads in part, "MANUFACTURED IN CHINA FOR COSCO INC." The 28-inch by 40-inch playpens have four mesh sides on a folding metal frame. The side rails have the name "Zip n Go," "Okie

Dokie," or "Carters" written on it. The padded floorboard

forms a carrying case for the playpen.

Department, Toy and juvenile specialty stores nationwide sold the "Zip n Go" and "Carters" playpens. JC Penney stores nationwide sold the "Okie Dokie" brand playpens exclusively. The playpens were sold from May 1995 through December 1999 for between \$40 and \$70.

Problem: The plastic tabs on the playpen that lock the rails into the corners can break or loosen over time, allowing the rails to turn inward, collapse and entrap an infant.

What to do: Consumers should stop using these playpens immediately and call Dorel Juvenile Group to receive a refund or replacement product. Consumers can contact Dorel at (800) 314-9327 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's web site at www.djgusa.com.



- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml/02/02008.html>

Release Number: 02-009 Safety 1st, of Canton, Mass., is voluntarily recalling about 1.5 million Fold-Up Booster Seats, intended for children who can sit unassisted through about 4 years of age. Only Safety 1st Fold-Up Booster Seats with model numbers 173, 173A and 173B are included in this recall. Booster seats with model numbers 173C and 173D, which have four indentations on the bottom, are not included in this recall. The model number is located on the back of the booster seat, inside the left arm panel. The booster seat is made of blue plastic with green and red arms and includes a yellow feeding tray. The seat insert for the booster seat is made up of two halves that are "press-fitted" together. They have a smooth surface bottom, with no indentations. The booster seats have a restraint system made up of a two-piece waist strap and one crotch strap. "SAFETY 1ST" is molded on the top and bottom of the seat insert. Major toy, hardware and department stores nationwide sold

these seats from January 1994 through August 1999 for about \$18.

Problem: The top half of the seat inserts can separate, and a child can fall from the chair and be injured.

What to do: Consumers should stop using these seats immediately and contact Safety 1st to receive a free repair kit with instructions. Consumers can contact Safety 1st at (888) 579-1730 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday or go to the firm's web site at www.safety1st.com.



(#173, #173A, #173B bottom of seat insert - smooth, flat surface)

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/0209.html>

Release Number: 02-010 Evenflo Company Inc., of Vandalia, Ohio, is recalling about 20,500 Home Décor Swing™ wooden baby gates. These Home Décor Swing™ gates have turned wooden spindles and were sold in oak or cherry finishes. Only model numbers "1555/6" with manufacture dates before September 2001 are included in this recall. Model numbers and date codes appear on the label located on the bottom of the gate. No other Evenflo gates are affected by this recall. Catalogs, department and juvenile specialty stores nationwide sold these baby gates from June 1999 through September 2001 for about \$100.

Problem: The plastic mounting hardware that attaches to the wall can crack or break, allowing the wooden gate to unlatch. Children can then gain access to restricted areas, such as stairs. Also, the plastic hardware attached to the side of the gate can break, creating small parts that pose a choking hazard to young children.

What to do: Consumers should stop using these gates immediately, and call Evenflo at (800) 576-0507 anytime to receive free replacement hardware. Consumers also can request replacement hardware online at www.swinggate.com.



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<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02010.html>

Release Number: 02-011 Little Tikes Company, of Hudson, Ohio, is voluntarily recalling about 250,000 "2-in-1 Snug 'n Secure" swings. The swings are made of molded plastic and have a blue seat with a red T-shaped restraint front. The model number 4117-00 is molded underneath the seat. The "little tikes" logo is written on the T-shaped restraint bar on the front of the swing. The swings were sold for children ages 9-months through 4-years old. The swing is suspended with four yellow ropes. Only swings with blue or white buckles are included in this recall. Juvenile product and toy stores nationwide sold the swings from December 2000 through September 2001 for about \$20.

Problem: The buckles on the swing can break and the shoulder restraint straps can pull out of the back of the seat, causing young children to fall.

What to do: Consumers should stop using the swings immediately and contact Little Tikes at www.littletikes.com or call (800) 815-4820 anytime to receive a repair kit.



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<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02011.html>

Release Number: 02-012 Wyco Inc., of Baldwin Park, Calif., is voluntarily recalling about 95,000 "Runt"™ brand mini-bicycles. The "Runt"™ mini-bicycles are about 24-inches long and 26-inches high with 6-inch wheels. They have adjustable seat and handlebars with quick release levers. The bicycles are red, blue, black or chrome in color with black seats and handle grips. The word "RUNT" and the Runt logo of a dog's face are on the front of the steering column. Bicycle, toy, discount department, convenience, and specialty stores nationwide, and mail order catalogs and web sites sold these mini-bicycles from January 2001 through July 2001 for about \$100.

Problem: These bicycles do not have any

brakes, which are required by the CPSC standard for bicycles of this type. The CPSC standard also requires these bicycles have chain guards to prevent riders from getting fingers, toes and clothing caught in the gears.

What to do: Consumers should stop using these Runt bicycles immediately and get a free repair kit. To order a free repair kit and for more information, call Wysco toll-free at (866) 868-7868 between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. PT Monday through Friday, or visit their web site at www.JustGoScooters.com.



<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02012.html>

Release Number: 01-014 Palliser Furniture Ltd., of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, is voluntarily recalling about 4,500 toy boxes. All the toy boxes have a manufacturer's label inside or on the back with "Palliser" and the model number written on it. The model numbers are: 580-283, 581-283, 582-283, 583-283, 584-283, 589-283 and 598-283. The toy boxes measure about 36-inches long by 19-inches wide and 21-inches high. They have the following finishes: white with small color inserts in the knobs or with large color inserts on the front panel; natural maple or natural maple with white, denim or green front panels; and natural cherry. Furniture stores nationwide and in Canada sold these toy boxes from July 1999 through August 2001 for about \$150 (about \$200 CAD).

Problem: The toy box's lid can fall suddenly, posing entrapment and strangulation hazards to young children. In addition, spaces at the end of the hinge on the lid can cause pinched, crushed and lacerated fingers.

What to do: Consumers should stop children from using these toy boxes immediately, and contact Palliser for a free replacement toy box or a \$50 refund. For more information, consumers should call Palliser's Toy Box Hotline at (877) 840-7396 anytime or visit Palliser's recall web site at www.toyboxnews.com.



<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02014.html>

Release Number: 02-029 CPSC filed an administrative lawsuit against the Daisy Manufacturing Co. (Daisy), doing business as Daisy Outdoor Products, of Rogers, Ark., seeking a recall of 7.5 million Powerline Airguns. The lawsuit seeks to compel Daisy to notify consumers that the model 880 and model 856 Powerline Airguns are defective, and present a substantial risk of death or injury to anyone using the airgun. Daisy has refused to voluntarily recall these BB guns, which have been sold since September 1972 in sporting goods, department, and hardware stores, as well as on the Internet.

CPSC began an investigation in May 2000 following reports that Daisy had made changes to the model 856 Powerline Airgun in order to correct potential design defects. The lawsuit filed by CPSC staff alleges that Daisy's Powerline Airguns are still defective because BBs can become lodged in the magazine of the airguns, even though the airgun can appear empty. It is foreseeable that a child, believing the BB gun is empty, could play with Daisy's Powerline Airgun in an unsafe manner. The stuck BB can then become dislodged, causing death or serious injury if fired in the direction of another person. CPSC staff believes that all 856 and 880 model airguns sold by Daisy have this defect.

The CPSC lawsuit also contends that Daisy's Powerline Airguns' failure to incorporate an automatic safety system makes the BB guns defective. Daisy's Powerline Airguns currently have a manual safety button on them.

CPSC staff believes that it would cost \$2 per airgun to correct the defect that causes BBs to become lodged in the loading mechanism and to put an automatic safety device on the airgun.



<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02029.html>

Release Number: 02-004 As the weather turns colder throughout much of the country, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) urges consumers to have a professional inspection of all fuel-burning appliances - including furnaces, stoves, fireplaces, clothes dryers, water heaters and space heaters - to detect deadly carbon monoxide (CO) leaks.

These appliances burn fuels - typically gas, both natural and liquefied petroleum; kerosene; oil; coal; and wood. Under certain conditions, these appliances can produce deadly CO. However, with proper installation and maintenance, they are safe to use. An annual inspection and service is the first line of defense against this silent killer.

CO is a colorless, odorless gas produced by burning any fuel. The initial symptoms of CO poisoning are similar to flu, and include headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea and dizziness. Exposure to high levels of CO can cause death.

CPSC recommends that the yearly professional inspection include checking chimneys, flues and vents for leakage and blockage by debris. Birds, insects and other animals sometimes nest in vents and block exhaust gases, causing the gases to enter the home. Leakage through cracks or holes could cause black stains on the outside of the chimney or flue. These stains and strange smells can mean that pollutants are leaking into the house. In addition, have all vents to furnaces, water heaters, boilers and other fuel-burning appliances checked to make sure they are not loose or disconnected.

Have your appliances inspected for gas leaks and adequate ventilation. A supply of fresh air is important to help carry pollutants up the chimney, stovepipe or flue, and is necessary for the complete combustion of any fuel. Never block ventilation air openings. Also, make sure the appliance is operating on the fuel that it is designed to use. An appliance must be modified by a professional to burn propane.

CPSC recommends that every home should have at least one CO alarm that meets the requirements of the most recent Underwriters Laboratories (UL) 2034 standard or International Approval Services 6-96 standard. CPSC worked with UL to improve the CO alarm standard to improve the reliability of alarms, and reduce the potential for nuisance alarming.

Consumers should also have the vent pipes on their heating systems inspected. In 1998, CPSC worked with the furnace and boiler industry and the manufacturers of high-temperature plastic vent (HTPV) pipes to conduct a vent pipe recall program. The program's purpose is to replace, free of charge, an estimated 250,000 HTPV pipe systems attached to gas or propane furnaces or boilers in consumers' homes. The HTPV pipes could crack or separate at the joints and leak CO. Consumers should call the recall hotline toll-free at (800) 758-3688, between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. ET, seven days a week, to verify that their appliance venting systems are subject to this program.

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<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtm102/02004.html>

Release Number: 02-015 CPSC voted unanimously to require child-resistant packaging for some common household products and cosmetics containing hydrocarbons that can poison children. This safety standard will help prevent injuries and deaths to children under 5 years of age who swallow and aspirate certain oily liquids containing hydrocarbons. The new poison prevention packaging for affected products containing hydrocarbons must be in use in 12 months. Examples of hydrocarbon-containing products covered by new poison prevention packaging:

- Cosmetics - some: Baby oils, Sun screens, Nail enamel dryers, Hair oils, Bath oils, Makeup removers, Body oils, Massage oils;
- Automotive chemicals – some: Gasoline additives, Fuel injection cleaners, Carburetor cleaners;
- Cleaning solvents – some: Wood oil cleaners, Metal cleaners, Adhesive removers, Spot removers, General – use household oils, Gun cleaning solvents containing kerosene;
- And – some: Water repellent containing mineral spirits used for decks, shoes, and sports equipment.

Problem: When these products enter the lungs, chemical pneumonia can develop and cause death.

What to do: Child-resistant packaging saves lives, but since the packaging is child-resistant, not child-proof, parents also need to keep baby oil and other potentially poisonous substances locked up out of reach of young children.

- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02015.html>

Release Number: 02-023 CPSC is alerting consumers to a tougher safety standard that should prevent children from becoming entrapped in automatic security gates. These sliding or swinging gates are typically found at the entrances of residences, apartment buildings, condominiums, parking lots and garages, and commercial establishments. CPSC worked with Underwriters Laboratories (UL) to develop the tougher safety standard that requires automatic gates to have at least two mechanisms to prevent entrapment. These provisions are similar to the standards in effect for automatic garage doors. The standard, which UL adopted in March 2000, requires a sensing device that will reverse the gate if it encounters an obstruction when opening or closing; and a secondary sensing mechanism, such as an electric eye or an edge sensor that will reverse the gate if an obstruction is detected. Additional safety measures related to gate installation include:

- Elimination of all gaps over 2.25 inches.
- Installation of controls far enough from the gate so users cannot come into contact with the gate while operating the controls.
- Installation of controls where the user has full view of the gate operation.
- Elimination of pinch points.
- Installation of guarding on exposed rollers.
- Posting of warning signs on each side of the gate.

Problem: Children and adults can be severely injured or killed if they become entrapped in the gates as they are automatically opened or closed. Many older gates do not have sensing devices or reversing mechanisms to prevent these entrapments.

What to do: If your apartment or condominium complex has an older gate, contact a manager or your homeowners' association and have it replaced with a safer automatic gate that meets the new standard.

- <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02023.html>

<http://datcp.state.wi.us> or contact Michelle Reinen at (608) 224-4988 or michelle.reinen@datcp.state.wi.us. Be sure to provide your name, telephone number and e-mail address.

If you have any questions or want to file a complaint regarding an unsafe product, contact:
WI Bureau of Consumer Protection,
Regulation & Safety Section
1-800-422-7128 (toll free in Wisconsin)
or (608) 224-4988

If you would like to sign up for the Keep Your Kids Safe newsletter, please visit our webpage at